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### 10/18/1989 - Payne Attends National Business Conferences in Washington, D.C.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PAYNE ATTENDS NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCES IN WASHINGTON

CHARLESTON, IL--Dr. Stephen L. Payne, Eastern Illinois University's Bertrand P. Holley Distinguished Professor of Social Responsibility in Business, recently attended two national business conventions in Washington, D.C.

Payne, who is beginning his first semester as Distinguished Professor in the Lumpkin College of Business, spoke to a large group at the Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference.

His presentation was entitled "A Proposal for Corporate Ethical Reform: The Ethical Dialogue Group."

Payne says this is a reform proposal that certain corporations might consider if they have not been successful in confronting ethical challenges.

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"I was proposing that larger companies create a special group within the firm to undertake moral dialogues on sensitive social issues affecting the firm," said Payne. "There is currently much negative publicity about corporations not being ethically responsible, and large corporations can do much more than use publicity campaigns to reduce this public cynicism."

Payne said he also was involved in the Academy of Management Conference that met simultaneously in Washington. He said the Academy is currently trying to establish an official code of ethics for the professional association. Payne said the code of ethics would probably be a five to ten page document that college business professors could use for guidance in confronting ethical challenges in their particular work environments.

In fact, Payne said teaching business ethics and social responsibility were the primary reasons he was hired here at Eastern. "I was brought in to assist business professors in making students more aware of the ethical dimension to decision making in the business world."

Payne said he will begin teaching a course to be offered for the first time this Spring entitled, "Business Ethics." He said the course will be offered as an elective in the business college and encourages majors in the business college to consider scheduling this course in the Spring.

He formerly taught at the University of Southwestern Louisiana as a management professor since 1981. He is a member of the Academy of Management, the Better Business Bureau's Consumer Arbitration Program, and The Society for Business Ethics.